(c) what steps are being taken by Government to safeguard the future of those children who will require to spend their lives in Indian environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) Central Tibetan Schools have been established exclusively for imparting education to the children of Tibetan refugees and to preserve their culture and heritage & to maintain their identity. In these schools Hindi is being taught as a subject from class I to V under informal arrangements for Indian students. These students are studying Hindi as a compulsory subject from class VI to class X and as an optional subject in classes XI and XII.

Representation of Hindi writers in World Hindi Conference

2166. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian delegation to the recent World Hindi Conference at Surinam did not represent large sections of Hindi writers;

(b) whether there was a strong protest by several writers in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) As per information received from the Ministry of External Affairs, it is not true that Indian delegation did not represent large sections of Hindi writers in the Seventh World Hindi Conference held in Surinam.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Female literacy rate in Orissa

2167. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the female literacy rate in Orissa;

(b) the reasons for low female literacy rate in some districts of Orissa; and